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Bangalore Mirror

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KSPCB's delay in data upload after water quality analysis of city lakes holding up development at waterbodies, citizens complain

STATE OF THE LAKES

PG 4 INSIDE» Polluted water bodies

Water quality analysis of 278 lakes done in Karnataka until November

Iffath Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) regularly conducts water quality analysis of the lakes in the state.

In Bengaluru, water quality analysis of 106 lakes is undertaken. However, ecologists and lake activists have observed that the state pollution board has not been actively releasing data on its website.

Even until January last week, KSPCB had released the classification of water quality and national water quality monitoring programme report only till September 2022. There was a lag of about three months of data. But as on January 23, the reports available showcased data from April 2022 to November 2022.

Activists complained about the delayed data and pointed out the necessity to upload it on time as the BBMP lakes department can get an overview of lakes and speed up developmental works.

"A month ago, there was a RTI meeting at the KPSCB office wherein I had questioned the data lag; the officials pointed out that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

CITY / PAGE 5

Shelter Skelter

Cracks in homes that can crumble any time now

CITY / PAGE 3

Park worry

PWD tender for construction in Cubbon Park irks citizens

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3 THINGS TO DO

01 Freedom Jam

Freedom Jam which started in Bengaluru in 1996 during India's 50th anniversary of independence celebrations, will commemorate Republic Day with independent music of different styles on its 25th edition. Grammy-winning album artiste Dr Prakash Sontakke, rock band Thermal & A Quarter, prog metal Lucid Dreams, fusion Esperanto, metal Illucia, classic rock Astral Ray, desi-rock Inquilab, alternative Kamal Singh from Lounge Piranha, metal Goatsmoke, fusion rock Vishishta, power pop Abhi Heights, etc., are just some of the performers taking part in this edition.
Where: Alliance Francaise, Vasanth Nagar
When: January 26, 12 pm – 9 pm

02 Darshan Raval, live

Phoenix Marketcity, Bengaluru is all set to host a spellbinding musical concert with Darshan Raval at the Love-A Fair India Tour. Raval has lent his voice to many Bollywood hit numbers like: 'Chogada' from the movie Loveyatri, 'Kamariya' from the movie Mitron, 'Teri Aankhon Mein' from the album Teri Aankhon Mein, and many more. **Where: Courtyard Phoenix Market city; When: January 28, 6 pm onwards Tickets; bookmyshow.com**

03 Secrets of the Soil

KYNKYNY's latest exhibition 'Secrets of the Soil' journeys to the ancient and arid region of Marathwada, which forms the epicentre of rising contemporary artist Siddharth Shingade's atmospheric artistic universe. The exhibition brings to the surface, hidden and unknown stories and facets about this vast land, its people and culture, interwoven with stories from mythology and treasured childhood memories.
Where: KYNKYNY, Infantry Road
When: Till February 18, 11 am – 6 pm

Work in mornings, study in evenings

Working professionals want AICTE authorities to resume evening engineering classes so that they can work and graduate simultaneously

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

An engineering degree allows many working professionals to be eligible for a promotion

Ever since the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) released the notice to close evening engineering colleges across the countries from academic year 2021-22, diploma holders and working professionals have been urging the authorities to restart the classes.

"Evening colleges have been cancelled for last two years across the country. We do not know the reason why AICTE has done it, but they have not been functional for two years," said Dr Vidyashankar S, Vice Chancellor, Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU).

After NEP 2020 draft was rolled out, there were lack of clarity about the guidelines for evening colleges for lateral entry students, as per the reports.

In Karnataka, colleges like University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) and BMS Evening College of Engineering (BMSCE) used to have three-year evening programme for working professionals who have a diploma and want to further pursue engineering degree course.

However, ever since the evening colleges have been closed, these working professionals have been facing issues.

"Many engineering students have no other choice than to start working after their diploma course due to certain financial reasons or other circumstances. That is the reason that these students choose to opt for shorter diploma courses and get a job. But the jobs are mostly dead-end as they require higher skilled individuals for higher positions. For these situations, evening colleges were a boon to diploma holders who were working a part time or a full-time job," Sachin Vishwas, an engineering diploma holder.

Due to the pandemic, the working diploma working professionals were overloaded with the production targets leading to fall in admission for the academic year 2020-21. But closing down the colleges is not a fair decision on the part of the authorities, he added.

> **"Evening colleges were a boon to diploma holders who were working a part time or a full-time job**
> – Sachin Vishwas, an engineering diploma holder

The Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) also released a notice on its official website on January 13, stating, "Since the seats for evening engineering colleges are not shown in the seat matrix, the ranks assigned for evening engineering colleges shall be re-allotted to day colleges as per merit order."

"I completed my diploma course in 2001. Currently, I am a manager in my company but to be eligible for a promotion, we would need to have a graduation. We are requesting the authorities to give us an opportunity to study an engineering course in an evening college to become an engineering graduate," said Anupama Sachin, another working professional.

Get, set, time to soar again!

As Bengaluru gears up for the Aero India 2023, the country's biggest airshow, the first batch of the fighter aircrafts are likely to land in the city from February 7 while the rest of the aircrafts are likely to be at the IAF air base by February 12.

The Aero India show will be held between February 13 to 17. The rehearsals are likely to start from February 8. The 14th edition is touted to be the largest ever aero show organised in a total area of around 35,000 sqm; 731 exhibitors have registered till date.

PM Modi will inaugurate the Aero India. Reviewing the preparations, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said that besides exhibitions, there will be a defence ministers' conclave, with the theme 'Shared Prosperity through Enhanced Engagement in Defence (SPEED)' and a CEOs' roundtable also among the marquee events.

The Manthan start-up event and Bandhan ceremony, which witnesses signing of MoUs, will also be part of the event.

He commended Bengaluru for successfully organising several editions of Aero India, saying that the event is shaping Karnataka as an epicentre of aviation and aerospace industry. He described Karnataka as one of the leading states which contributes to the economic growth of the country. "The state is known for its skilled manpower and robust defence manufacturing ecosystem. It is a preferred centre for manufacturing and R&D activities for domestic & multinational defence and aviation companies," he said.

CM Basavaraj Bommai who took part in the review meeting said, "This is going to be the biggest air show. There will be a large number of participants from delegates, aerospace and defence industry leaders, also companies. There will be an India pavilion, Karnataka pavilion and a large exhibition of aerospace companies. Also, there will be aerial displays by aircrafts, and the public will also be getting an opportunity to witness it."

Aero India has carved a niche for itself globally as one of the premier aerospace exhibitions with 13 successful editions organised in Bengaluru since 1996. **— BMB**

Don't build in our lung space, please

Citizens miffed at tender allowing building in Cubbon Park

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A recent tender by the Public Works Department (PWD) to construct commercial establishments inside Cubbon Park premises has irked the park's patrons. However, Horticulture Department officials have denied giving approvals for the construction.

Cubbon Park, one of the major lung spaces of Bengaluru was originally 245.31 acre but has been reduced to 167.17 acre. Further construction raises further questions about the decreasing space for ever-expanding and urbanising Bengaluru.

As per the tender issued, there are plans to start commercial establishments inside Cubbon Park towards the KR Circle area. The plan involves the construction of a milk booth, fruit/vegetable shop, stationery/photocopy shop, canteen, and parking facilities by renting out an estimated 55.2 sq m of land and earning a monthly revenue of Rs 4 lakh per month. Taking into consideration the presence of the PWD department near Cubbon Park premises, the proposal has raised some concerns.

RTI activist Saidatta said, "Proposals are in progress to start commercial activities by the PWD Department inside Cubbon Park. Even though it's separate from Cubbon Park, it will have a drastic impact on the park. "

The tender allows commercial establishments to be set up inside park

In an open letter, the RTI activist addressed that the proposal will destroy the clean environment and might make it impossible for walkers. "I request authorities to cancel the tender and preserve the historical space." he added in the letter.

The Cubbon Park Walkers Association also expressed their opposition to the plan. "How can a tender be called for commercial establishments inside Cubbon Park premises? Outside Vidhan Soudha, no commercial activities are to be permitted within a two-km radius. If tenders are not recalled, we will file a case against the people involved," said Umesh Kumar, President of the Cubbon Park Walkers Association.

> **If tenders are not recalled, we will file a case**
>
> –Umesh Kumar, President of the Cubbon Park Walkers Association

However, Horticulture Department officials clarified that currently, they haven't given any permission for any commercial activity inside Cubbon Park's premises. We have been permitted to demolish and renovate Cubbon Park Police Station and renovation work for the Fisheries department. Near KR Circle, we have permitted Soil Survey as well. Apart from this, we have not given any permission to the PWD department," said Deputy Director, Horticulture Department (Cubbon Park), HT Balakrishna.

School staff in hot water over board affiliation

Ahna Prakash
c-ahna.prakash
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A school in Nagarbhavi which claims to have Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliation has come under fire from the students' parents.

Parents allege that the administration of the school was lying about the CBSE affiliation and the school has a state board affiliation from the 1st standard to the 8th standard.

Parents gathered around the school on January 4 to protest, when the school handed out the state board syllabus to students one month before their exam.

Yashaswini, whose child studies in Class 5, says that the

school took lakhs of money from the parents and cheated them.

"We didn't have any idea that the school was not affiliated to the CBSE. My child was given state syllabus books and we were informed that the examinations would be conducted on the basis of state syllabus," she told BM.

She also added that it was difficult to teach young kids a new syllabus in a span of just a month.

"For a year, my kid was studying CBSE books but now all of a sudden, the syllabus has changed. So how do they expect us to be able to teach a completely new syllabus to 12-year-olds?" she added.

Parents claimed that when they approached the school authorities, they were not ready to give a TC or refund the fees.

"The school administration told us that it doesn't matter if the child is studying from CBSE or state board if the student is below Grade 9. So, our main query is that if it doesn't matter and all the boards are the same, why are we being charged Rs 1.5 lakh?" asked a parent.

The State Education Department has assured the parents that they will be investigating the matter.

Bus rams into scooter rider

A woman riding a two-wheeler died near Sattva Apartment in Yeswanthpur after a private bus collided with her vehicle.

According to the police, the woman was on the phone while riding. At this time, the bus driver was picking up people at the bus stop when the bus suddenly moved ahead and it collided with the scooter, said the police. Cops said the woman fell and was crushed by the bus and she died on the spot. Yeswanthpur traffic police visited the spot and conducted an investigation.

Notice issued to man who threw money

The City Market police have issued a notice against a man who threw Rs 10 notes from a flyover in the KR market area on Tuesday morning.

According to the police, the act was likely a publicity stunt and the man will be charged under Indian Penal Code (IPC) Section 283 B for obstruction of public movement.

The man has been identified as Arun K, an employee of an event management firm, said the police.

On Tuesday morning, Arun, donning a black blazer, with a wall clock hanging around his neck was seen throwing Rs 10 notes on the flyover. While he was throwing the notes, people gathered to collect it, causing traffic chaos on the road and on the flyover.

Later, he was detained by the police and interrogated.

"Preliminary investigation shows that he threw notes worth Rs 3,000 on the road. We haven't been able to determine the cause behind it, but it is likely a publicity stunt by the man. A notice has been sent to his home in Nagarbhavi for creating traffic chaos," said the police.

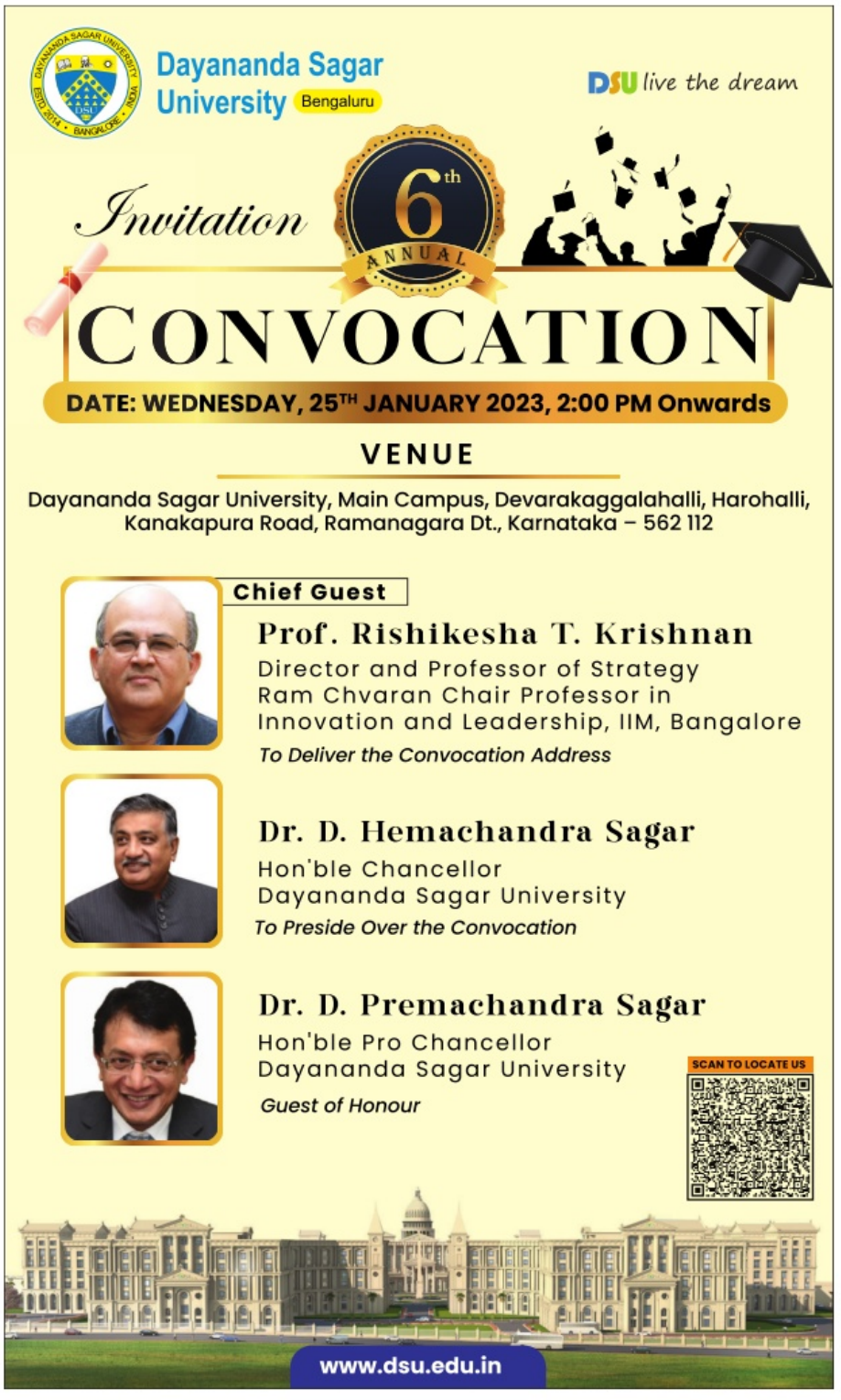
Cops recover watches worth Rs 57 lakh

Two men who had hijacked a lorry containing branded watches, were arrested and 1,282 watches worth Rs 57 lakh were seized from them. The incident had taken place on the night of January 15 in RR Nagar.

The bike of the duo, Syed Shahid and Jameer Ahmed, had collided with a lorry; the accused followed the lorry for a while and then assaulted the driver and fled with the watches. According to the police, the watches that were seized include brands like Titan and Fastrack smart watches.

A complaint was registered at the RR Nagar police station regarding the incident.

—Ahna Prakash



Bengaluru, we have a problem: It's our lakes

Many have consistently been falling under 'class E' category, experts report

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A file photo of RR Nagar Lake; lake activists and experts are of the opinion that the KSPCB is not doing enough to revive and maintain polluted waters bodies in the city despite having the power to do so

The number of severely polluted lakes in the city have been on the rise over the past few months. According to the latest water quality report of 106 lakes in Bengaluru by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), the total number of lakes under Class E has reached 37 as of November 2022. While 22 lakes were under Class E in October 2022, only 15 were under this category in September.

Moreover, all the 106 lakes studied by the board have unsatisfactory water quality. While 37 lakes have been put under Class E with water quality not even suitable for fisheries, the rest of the water bodies have been classified as Class D, making them unfit for drinking and bathing, even after treatment.

According to Central Pollution Control Board guidelines (CPCB), water from Bengaluru lakes can only be used for industrial cooling, controlled waste disposal, irrigation, and propagation of fisheries. KSPCB monitors and classifies the lake water quality under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. The water resources are classified as A, B, C, D, and E, based on water quality parameters released by CPCB.

Further, the Water Quality Index is satisfactory or unsatisfactory based on core parameters such as dissolved oxygen (DO) levels, biological oxygen demand (BOD), fecal coliforms (FC), and total coliforms (TC). A water body with a DO level of less than 4 mg/L, BOD of more than 3 mg/L, FC of more than 2500 MPN/100 mL, and TC of more than 5000 MPN/100 mL falls under classes E and D.

> **"KSPCB is empowered to take action against those polluting lakes. As of now, they are only releasing reports**
> – Ramprasad V, Friends of Lakes

Raghavendra B Pachhapur, a lake activist and program manager of ActionAid Association, said, "Our analysis of KSPCB old reports shows that between April and November 2022, the water quality in 75 per cent (78 out of 106) city lakes have been classified under class E. The BBMP should immediately take note of this report and arrest pollutant entry."

Activists say that the urban watershed management is not well planned and there is a lot of disconnect in the work done by various departments.

Out of many possible reasons behind the poor state of lakes in the city, they point to improper design, poor maintenance, and lack of technical manpower when it comes to conventional sewage treatment plants (STPs) installed to treat sewage water before it enters lakes.

"The city generates 1400 MLD waste water, as per BWSSB's conservative estimates. While the total treatment capacity of Bengaluru is 721 MLD, only 520 MLD gets treated on average. Both BWSSB & BBMP lake departments need to work together," said Vinod Jacob, Namma Bengaluru Foundation.

The onus of the current situation of lakes in Bengaluru, according to the experts, lies with KSPCB. The Water Act of 1974 says one of the main functions of the board is to inspect pollution control areas, assess the quality of water, and take steps for prevention, control, and abatement of water pollution in such areas. KSPCB has the power to make an application to the court to restrain the pollution of a water body.

"KSPCB is empowered to take action against those polluting lakes. As of now, they are only identifying the pollution and releasing reports," said Ramprasad V, founder, Friends of Lakes.

'There's delay in water body analysis data'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

during Ganesha festival many samples were taken and sent for testing, and hence the delay. However it's been long since the Ganesha festival is over; yet the updating of data is quite late. No doubt, KSPCB carries sample testing religiously and sends the results to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB); but why isn't it uploaded on their own website on time. The portal allows the public to access the data; the BBMP can get a clear view on which lake needs assistance. If the data of September is shown in January, then the water quality would have worsened much more," lake activist Raghvendra B Pacchapur said.

As per the KSPCB report, water quality analysis of 278 lakes was done in Karnataka until November. In Bengaluru, water samples from 106 lakes were tested; data from April to November showcased Class D and Class E categories of lakes. In November, over 66 lakes were in Class D and 37 lakes in Class E. Class A waterbodies qualify for drinking water quality, class B lakes qualify for outdoor bathing, Class C category lakes can be sources of drinking water but with water treatment followed by disinfection. Class D lakes qualify for propagation of wildlife and fisheries; water from Class E lakes qualify for industrial cooling, irrigation and controlled waste disposal.

There are over 32 other parameters to check on the water quality of lakes such as chloroform level, dissolved oxygen, salinity, PH level, biochemical oxygen demand and others, which are not showcased on the website.

> **"We will check with the laboratory why data isn't being updated on time... uploading results of all parameters will take a lot of time**
> – KSPCB official

"It is important to put out the results of all the parameters. For example, the dissolved oxygen is one of the main parameters which shows how much oxygen is dissolved in a litre of water. The BBMP and other departments can get a fair idea on which parameter needs more attention and focus on its maintenance thereafter," Pacchapur added.

Some of the lakes that fell in Class E category include Kalkere Lake, Doddanekundi Tank, Sadaramangala Lake, Garudacharpalya Lake, Ulsoor Lake, Madiwala Lake, Hulimavu Lake, Singasandra Lake, Jakkur Lake and Narasipura Lake.

"The data is directly uploaded from the central laboratory where the samples are sent. We will check with the laboratory why data isn't being updated on time. Meanwhile, uploading data of each parameter is quite the task as there are 278 lakes in Karnataka; putting up the results of all the 33 parameters will take a lot of time. Hence the classification in class category can easily showcase the condition of the lake," a senior official from KSPCB said.

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Out of order

Nandini Layout

This BBMP borewell on 24th Main Road in Nandini Layout (adjacent to BHEL Colony) has not been functioning for more than two years.

Unlawful parking?

Banaswadi

Private cars are parked opposite Ayyappa temple in Banaswadi every day.

Take them down

Chikkalasandra

Footpaths have been blocked by politicians' hoardings in Uttarahalli main road, Chikkalasandra.

Shelter skelter

Cracks in houses that can crumble any time in Visvesvaraya Street

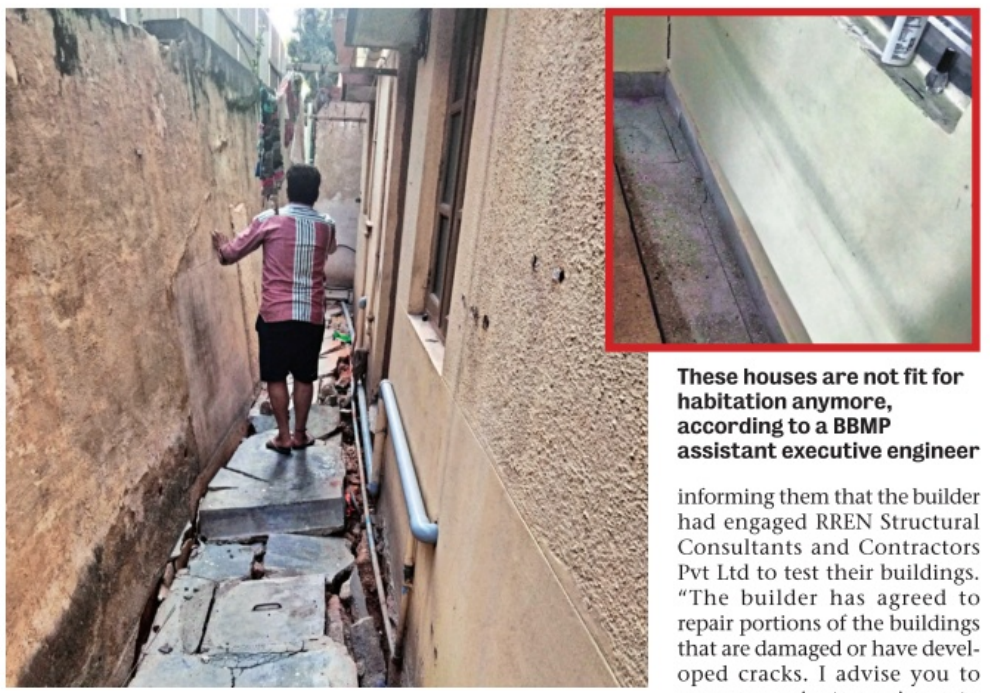
Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Three families residing in Visvesvaraya Street of Maruthi Sevanagar are spending sleepless nights over cracks that have developed in their houses due to the construction of an apartment complex. They said that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) engineer has forgotten about the condition of their buildings after issuing notices to them.

A BBMP assistant executive engineer (AEE) issued notices to four families on December 6, stating that the builder did not take safety measures while constructing an apartment complex adjacent to their buildings. The AEE said that their buildings were unfit for habitation.

"We have noticed cracks on these building walls due to the excavation work taken up by the builder. We are directing you to vacate these buildings as there are chances of loss of life and property if these buildings collapse," the AEE said in the notice to the building owners.

The AEE served notices to M Parashuram, Rajasekhar P, and V Radhabhai.



These houses are not fit for habitation anymore, according to a BBMP assistant executive engineer

"I am worried about the safety of my building. My son sent me to my elder son's house for one month due to the cracks that developed on the walls," Radhabhai told Bangalore Mirror.

The report said that loosened soil would take time to come back to its original state. It also stated that further investigation was required about whether the buildings should be restored or demolished.

Meanwhile, the AEE sent another notice to the building owners on December 15, 2022, informing them that the builder had engaged RREN Structural Consultants and Contractors Pvt Ltd to test their buildings. "The builder has agreed to repair portions of the buildings that are damaged or have developed cracks. I advise you to engage a private engineer to supervise the repair work to be undertaken by the builder," they said in a notice to the building owners.

Sachin, who claimed to be the project manager of Parakite Builders Pvt Ltd, said that the builder has already completed the repair work of a building.

HC rejects unusual maintenance plea

In a major ruling, the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday held that a physically fit husband can't ask maintenance from his wife, as asking maintenance from the wife might result in lethargy.

A single-judge bench of Justice M. Nagaprasanna has rejected the petition filed by the husband seeking maintenance and ordered him to provide Rs 10,000 per month to his wife.

"As per the Hindu Marriage Act's Section 24, there is a provision for husband and wife to submit a petition seeking maintenance from their partners. But, the petitioner husband has filed a petition seeking maintenance only to refuse to give it to her," the bench said.

"Under the pretext of unemployment, the husband wants to live on from the maintenance given by the wife. Unless it is proven that a husband is physically and mentally incapable, he can't ask for alimony from the wife," Justice Nagaprasanna said in his order. It is the duty of the husband to earn money morally and take care of his wife and children, he added.

The wife had gone to her parents' house due to a difference of opinion in 2017, after the husband fought with her for her attending the birthday of her sister's son and they had grown apart.

The husband had filed a divorce petition before the Family Court. The wife had demanded Rs 25,000 alimony per month and the expenditure of the case. The husband, in turn, had told the court that he was unemployed for two years because of the pandemic and he didn't have any money.

He asked the court to provide him Rs 2 lakh compensation from the wife as she belongs to a rich family. The Family Court had rejected his petition and ordered him to provide Rs 10,000 alimony every month to his wife. He had then filed an appeal against the order in the High Court. **-IANS**

B'luru girl skis high

14-year-old girl from Thubarahalli bags gold medal at Montenegro Skiing Competition, beats 23 athletes from different countries

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

A Bengaluru girl has made the country proud by winning the gold medal at Montenegro Skiing Competition on Tuesday. Jiah Aryan, a resident of Bengaluru participated in the competition which had 23 athletes from different countries. She won the gold medal for covering the distance in 1.13 minutes. Jiah told Bangalore Mirror that it was a challenging tournament for her.

"The preparations were very tough. I had to work out in the gym for 1.5 hours for six days a week where I focused on lower body strength and agility," she said.

After celebrating her 14th birthday recently, Jiah went to Austria alone and spent a complete month training with her coach at Hintertux before moving to Montenegro.

"My training was practicing on the slopes for about six hours a day with a lunch break. Though it was quite tough, I was regularly in touch with my family and friends who helped me stay in a healthy and happy state of mind," she added.

Next, she plans to continue her sports specific land training and will prepare for 10th standard board exams before leaving to train in Europe from November 2023 to January 2024.

Jiah will be back in India (Gulmarg) for the Khelo India Winter Games to be held from February 5 onwards and then look forward to the National Winter Games (presently undecided due to the sinking of Joshimath town in Uttarakhand).

Jiah bagged gold on Tuesday. She was introduced to ice sports when she was 7-years -old on her trip to Kheer Ganga in HP

"The preparations were very tough. I had to work out in the gym for 1.5 hours for six days a week where I focused on lower body strength and agility

–Jiah Aryan

Jiah is a resident of Thubarahalli and was introduced to ice sports when she was seven years old during her first trip to Kheer Ganga, Himachal Pradesh. As she developed interest, she enrolled in a basic ski course in February 2019 conducted by Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports. In February 2020 she did her intermediate course and was awarded with the best student award and received alpha grading.

"It is a challenging sport. Jiah had earlier suffered an accident which resulted in a collarbone fracture. This accident too could not stop her from getting back on the slopes and she started practicing with her left arm in a shoulder support sling," said Jiah's mother, Janvi Aryan.

As it's a rare sport for south India during the off season she worked for two hours on her physical fitness to strengthen her lower body in the gym and one hour of cycling. Since the snowfall in Kashmir this year, she shifted there a couple of months ago and was getting trained on the Gulmarg slopes from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm every day.

Her father IC Aryan added that skiing was an expensive sport and they were trying their best to support his daughter's dreams.

Heartfelt thanks: Pourakarmikas deserve it

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Sunday was a special day for around 80 pourakarmikas while it was a thanks giving day for the residents of Koramangala 6th Block. Pourakarmikas working at 6th and 5th Blocks of Koramangala were given gift hampers, presented prizes and offered sumptuous lunches by the residents.

"We consider it our responsibility to respect and thank pourakarmikas who work hard to keep our locality clean. I am very happy to be part of this event,'' said Vijayalakshmi Reddy, managing committee member of Koramangala 6th Block Residents' Welfare Association.

The residents have been organising the event for the last six years.

"Earlier, we used to felicitate and present gift hampers among the pourakarmikas working at the 6th Block. However, we have included pourakarmikas working at the 5th Block this year because they were also deputed to work in our locality on some occasions,'' she added.

Pourakarmikas of 5th and 6th Block Koramangala were felicitated

Neeraja Shetty, president, Koramangala 6th Block Residents' Welfare Association told Bangalore Mirror that the residents began felicitating pourakarmikas in the year 2016 and there were around sixty pourakarmikas then.

"Initially, we used to spend around Rs 60,000 to organise the event and now the amount has increased to Rs 1.60 lakh. We felicitated 83 people this year,'' she said.

BTM Layout MLA Ramalinga Reddy also helps the Koramangala 6th Block Residents' Welfare Association by sponsoring sarees for pourakarmikas.

"Every year we organise this event on Sunday after the Sankranti festival. We have been organising games for the pourakarmikas and giving prizes to the winners. We prefer to serve vegetarian lunch but sometimes a few residents sponsor non-vegetarian starters,'' she added.

The gift hamper consists of 2 kg rice, 1 kg toor dal, half kg moong dal, 1 kg sugar, 1 litre edible oil, a ghee packet and sweets. The association also invited a debris team, valvemen, people engaged in fogging and those assigned to repair street lights for the event.

"I have to thank the association for organising a function to thank pourakarmikas,'' said a resident.

Meanwhile, many pourakarmikas expressed their gratitude to the residents for their love and affection.

"The residents have been organising functions to thank pourakarmikas every year for the last six years. I am very happy to attend the event,'' said BBMP supervisor Narasimhaiah D.

According to Rajeshwari, a pourakarmika, she felt happy when the residents spoke with her with affection and concern.

"I have been attending this event since 2016. I wait for this occasion every year because it is the only event where pourakarmikas are treated as humans. They not only serve tasty food but also give us groceries,'' she said.

K'taka tableau all set for R-Day parade

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Karnataka will feature 'Nari Shakti' tableau reflecting women empowerment during the New Delhi's Republic Day parade. With this, Karnataka will claim the credit of being the only state in the country to have participated in the tableau section for 14 consecutive years.

According to the Department of Information and Public Relations, this year's Republic Day's tableau is the most memorable for the state of Karnataka. Facing many hurdles, the state has finally cleared the way for the parade. The challenge was to prepare a tableau in just 10 days.

"The tableau will feature Narasamma, a midwife who is seen swinging a cradle in front of a tableau adorned with plants, trees, hills and birds. She has performed more than two thousand such deliveries in seven decades," said Dr PS Harsha, Commissioner, Department of Information and Public Relations.

In the centre of the lush green tableau, Tulsi Gowda Halakki is shown nurturing the trees.

"Known as the 'Vruksha Maate', Tulsi is an expert in identifying and cultivating rare species of plants. She has the credit of raising more than 30,000 plants. The tableau shows her as sitting amidst the plants and nurturing them," he added.

The final part of the eye-catching forest-like stills shows Salumarada Thimmakka, a lady who planted and watered 8000 trees along the state highway. It is depicted as she is watering the plants.

"Apart from these, 75 banyan trees were planted and grown by her in a 4.5 km stretch on the state highway. It is depicted through a huge two banyan trees in the last part of the tableau," he explained.

Tableau controversy

This time, the central government issued a guideline to permit the states that did not get the opportunity to participate and participated very few times in the Republic Day parade in the last eight years. On these grounds, it was learned that Karnataka would not get the opportunity to participate with the tableau in Republic Day 2023. However, then the state government pitched the case and finally on January 16, Karnataka's name was officially included.

Bengaluru gears up for R-Day

As Bengaluru gears up to celebrate the Republic Day, Bengaluru City Police have asked the invitees not to take selfies or indulge in other activities, causing obstruction to vehicle or pedestrian obstruction.

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Border row: ₹60L/day as fee for legal team

State govt has fixed fee for senior lawyers to fight case in Apex Court

The Karnataka government has fixed a professional fee of Rs 59.9 lakh a day for the team of senior lawyers, including Mukul Rohatgi to fight the case pertaining to border row with Maharashtra in Supreme Court. A Law department order said it has fixed the terms and conditions and professional fee to the legal team to represent Karnataka before the Supreme Court in an original suit (number 4/2004) filed by the government of Maharashtra against Karnataka on the border dispute.

As per the January 18 order, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi will be paid Rs 22 lakh per day for appearing before the apex court and Rs 5.5 lakh per day for conference and other works.

Another lawyer Shyam Divan will be paid Rs six lakh a day for appearing before the court, Rs 1.5 lakh per day for preparation of the case and other works and Rs 10 lakh for outstation visits per day. The government will bear the expenses on hotel facilities and business class air travel.

The Advocate General of Karnataka will be paid Rs three lakh a day for appearing in the SC, Rs 1.25 lakh per day for preparing cases and other works, Rs two lakh on outstation visits apart from bearing the hotel and business class air travel expenditures.

The state government has also hired senior lawyer Uday Holla, a former advocate general of Karnataka, who will be paid Rs two lakh per day for appearing in the apex court, Rs 75,000 per day for preparation of the case, Rs 1.5 lakh per day for settlement of pleadings and other works, and Rs 1.5 lakh per day for outstation visits apart from hotel and travel expenses.

The boundary row had intensified late last year, with vehicles from either side being targeted, leaders from both the States weighing in, and pro-Kannada and Marathi activists being detained by police amid a tense atmosphere in Belagavi.

The border issue dates back to 1957 after the reorganisation of States on linguistic lines. Maharashtra laid claim to Belagavi, which was part of the erstwhile Bombay Presidency, as it has a sizeable Marathi-speaking population. It also laid claim to over 800 Marathi-speaking villages which are currently part of Karnataka.

Karnataka maintains the demarcation done on linguistic lines as per the States Reorganisation Act and the 1967 Mahajan Commission Report as final.

And, as an assertion that Belagavi is an integral part of the State, Karnataka has built the 'Suvarna Vidhana Soudha', modelled on the 'Vidhana Soudha' here. – PTI

File photo of a protest by Kannada Rakshana Vedike against the Maharashtra government after the border row broke out

Marriage before 18 years cannot be annulled: HC

The Karnataka High Court has ruled that the marriage of a woman that has taken place before her attaining 18 years of age cannot be annulled. The bench also quashed the earlier order in this regard by a Family Court. The division bench comprising Chief Justice PB Varale and Justice S Vishvajith Shetty gave the order, while looking into the petition in this regard by a woman recently.

According to the Hindu Marriage Act Section 5 (3), the age of bridegroom should be 21 years and bride should be 18 years. The rule specifying 18 years of age for marriage is being kept out of Section 11 of the Act, the bench said. Besides for cancellation of marriage, the facts have to be in contravention to the Section 5 and rule 1, 4 and 5. Hence, the annulment of marriage won't apply to this case, the bench said.

Petitioner Susheela from Mandya had married Manjunath on June 15, 2012. Susheela was minor at the time of marriage. The man came to know about this later and submitted a petition to the Family Court demanding cancellation of his marriage. The court accepted it and stated according to the Hindu Marriage Act the age has to be 18 years for the bride and at the time of marriage the age of the bride was just over 16 years. The court had stated the marriage won't stand under the Section 11 of the Hindu Marriage Act. – IANS

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I Abhishek Kumar S/O, Late Arun Kumar Shrivastav R/o No 160, Nilam Nivas, Kotur Village, Kotur, Bangalore Rural -560087 have changed my name to Abhishek Kumar Shrivastav for all purposes.

I Heena Siddiqa w/o Riyazulla R/o No 14/4 1st Cross Hosahalli Main Road Padayarayanapura Bengaluru 560026 have changed my name to Heena Siddiqua for all purposes.

I, VANISHREE M S, W/o, R P Kulkarni, No.54/4, 21st Main road, 4th Cross, Marenahalli, Near Maruthi Mandir, Vijaya Nagar, Bangalore-560040 here by declare that VANISHREE M S and VANISHRI both the name belongs to me only vide affidavit dated 18.11.2022 sworn before notary H.S. Sakalesh Aradhy, Bangalore.

I, Moin Pasha residing at No.5 Govianu Benson 1st Floor Bore Bank Road Benson Town next to SS Medical Bangalore-560046 changed name to Muyeen Pasha , I state that Moin Pasha and the Muyeen Pasha is the name of one and the same person that is myself vide affidavit dated 23.1.2023 sworn before notary Leela Bangalore

I, Shwetha Puttaraju w/o. Sunil Bhadrappa Muralinath Residing at No.10, Ground Floor, S R Enclave, 3rd Cross, B S K 3rd Stage, Balaji layout, Kathriguppe, Bengaluru-560085 have changed my name to SHWETHA PUTTARAJ vide affidavit dated 23.01.2023 Sworn before notary: K.S.Nataraja, Bengaluru

I, Dharaben Sudeep Panchal R/o Flat No-4016,golden Panorama, Sy No 42 and 44 , off kanakapura road Gubbalala Bengaluru 560061 have changed my name to Dhara Sudeep Panchal for all purposes

I, LIGI SAJI, W/o, Saji M Varghese and Residing at No. 181-1, Munikrishna Building, Hosur Main Road, Kithiganahalli, Bommasandra, Bangalore 560099 Karnataka India, have changed my name to LIGI N GEORGE vide Affidavit dated 08.12.2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, B.lore.

I Rohith, S/o S M Parameshwara R/o No.60,1st Floor, 5th Main, 12th Cross, Wilson garden, Bangalore-30 have Changed my name to Rohith P for all future purposes.

I, Sreeja Thuthikat residing at No. 14, High Tension Lane, Sir M.V Nagar, Ramamurthy Nagar, Dooravaninagar Post, Bengaluru-560016 have changed our minor daughter name from SHREYA S NAIR to SHREYA NAIR vide affidavit dated 23.01.2023 sworn before notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore.

I, SAMIRA BANU, R/o WARD NO-14 NALBANDVADI RAMANAGARAM. Changed my name as SAMEERA BANU W/o MOHAMMED MAZHAR AHMED

GENERAL

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION It is for the general information that I, VIJAYA SURESH SHENOY W/O Suresh Shenoy aged 77 years, residing at No 10,3rd main, 9th cross, Shreyas colony, J P Nagar 7th phase, Bangalore 560078 declare that my name has been wrongly written as VIJAYA BAI SURESH SHENOY in some documents.My actual name is VIJAYA SURESH SHENOY, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Janki Devi DOB: 1950 W/o No-7104694Y Rank Ex Havildar Bhagwat Singh Bisht R/o No-51 4th Cross , Ph-2 , Madappana halli Singanayakanahalli RTO Yelahanka B'lore -560064 have changed my name to Janaki Devi Bisht and my correct DOB is 04/03/1949 vide affidavit No-IN-KA547531542055 69V dtd :18/01/2023 and IN-KA5475 2671199609V dtd :18/01/2023 .

Actor Darshan, wife booked for keeping rare birds in farmhouse

The Karnataka forest authorities have booked actor Darshan and his wife Vijaya Lakshmi under the Wildlife Protection Act for keeping the rare bar-headed geese at their farm in Mysuru. Darshan is an ambassador for wildlife conservation and was nominated to the State Wildlife Board.

The authorities have also booked the farmhouse manager, Nagaraj. The forest department sleuths conducted raids following Darshan's statement in an interview that he has these rare migratory birds at his farmhouse. The authorities have seized four of the rare birds and released them near the Hadinaru lake in Bengaluru. – IANS

Temporary suspension of Metro at Kengeri

BMRCL has announced temporary suspension of metro train services between Mysore Road and Kengeri stations on Purple Line between January 27 and 30 for commissioning line extension between Kengeri to Challaghatta. Services will be available only between Baiyyappanahalli and Mysuru Road stations on these days. Normal services on the Purple Line upto Kengeri will resume on January 31 at 5 am. On the Green Line, there will be no change in the services between Nagasandra and Silk Institute stations. – BMB

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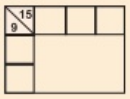
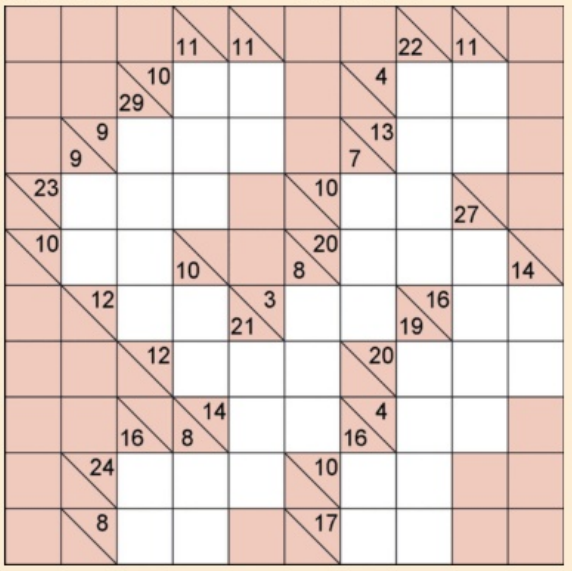
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas



for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



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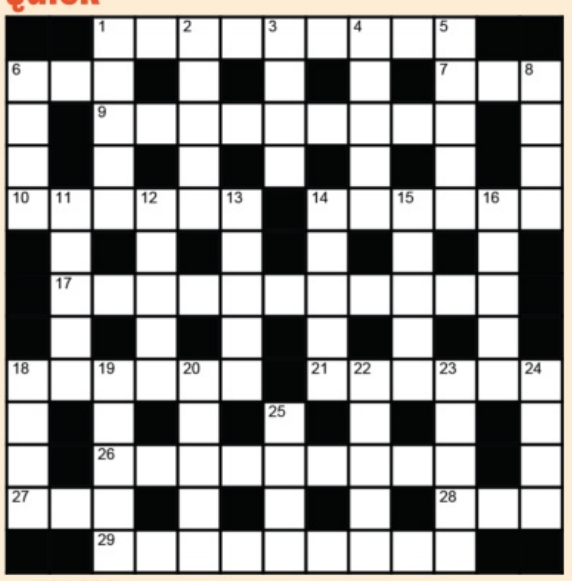


ACROSS

1 Superfluous, unnecessarily verbose (9)
6 Chinese code of behaviour (3)
7 Assistance (3)
9 Popular dessert in Karnataka and the rest of the country as well (6,3)
10 Elementary particle (6)
14 Former German emperor (6)
17 Basic or elemental (11)
18 Ruddy-complexioned (6)
21 Periods or shifts (6)
26 Depose (9)
27 Music director Malik (3)
28 Cricket great Sir ____ Hutton (3)
29 Feel very sorry about an event (3,3,3)

DOWN

1 Juliet's paramour? (5)
2 Nightclub in short (5)
3 Roman emperor (4)
4 First Greek letter (5)
5 ____ a chance : risks failure? (5)
6 Stumble (4)
8 Active one (4)
11 Not urban (5)
12 Architectural style (5)
13 Wanderer (5)
14 Monarchs (5)
15 Japanese porcelain (5)
16 Land of Giza and Alexandria (5)
18 White cheese (4)
19 Smell (5)
20 Girl's name–"Ernie" anagram? (5)
22 Weary or tuckered out (5)
23 Very recently (5)
24 Glance over (4)
25 Hankering (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS G

SLFEJT NZ LJLPYNJT RFDNYR FJ NJZLGW NY F UNPPIP.

Linemaro

You are too pretty to act like you are not

Mindchow

Imperfection is beauty, madness is genius and it's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring

Joke of the day

Murphy's Law of colleges: When you are late to class, you meet the principal in the hall

Loop

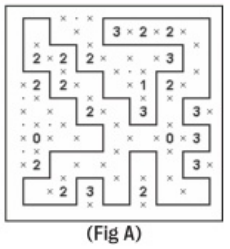
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

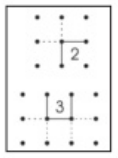
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

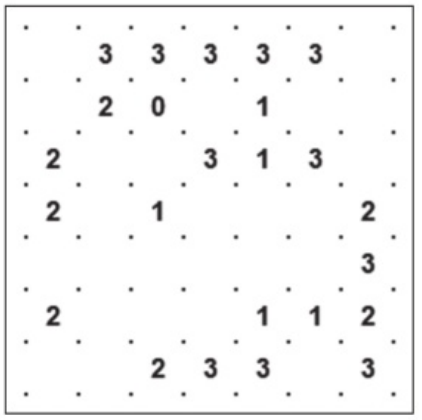
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



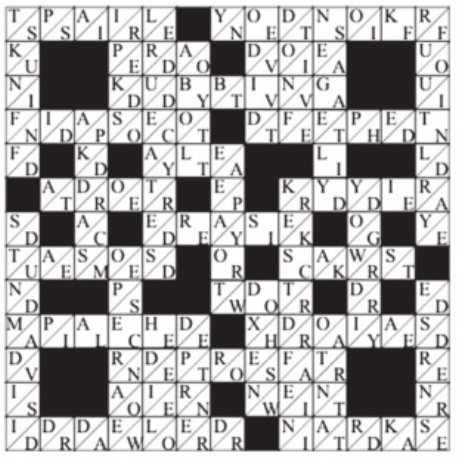
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



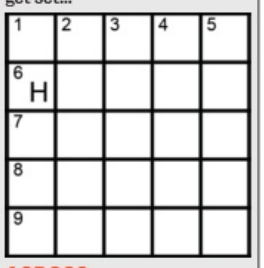
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

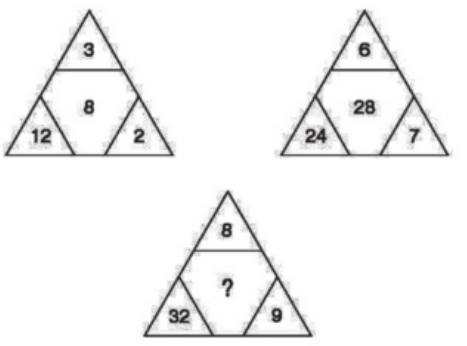
1 Path; 6 Oh LOL; 7 Groan; 8 Suing; 9 Stint

DOWN

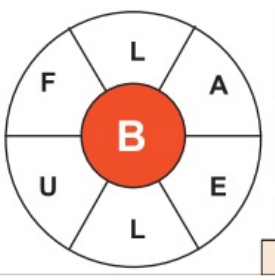
1 Thous; 2 Riots; 3 Ligan; 4 L pant; 5 NHS go

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 11 Good; 13 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

8	6		4		5		2	9
1								8
	7		2		3		6	
			1		9			
4		6				1		2
			7		2			
	4		5		1		9	
6								3
2	8		9		6		4	7

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 8: 2 5 6 8

Medium = 12: 1 1 4 8

Hard = 4: 2 5 8 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

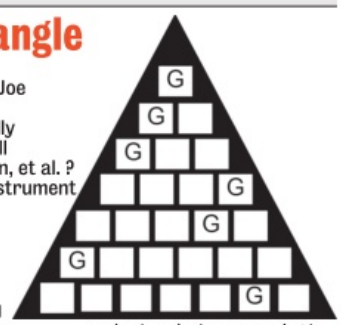
Differences: 1. Club is missing. 2. Man has less hair. 3. Cap is different. 4. Nose is different. 5. Shoe is different. 6. Golf bag strap is different.

Riddler

Four friends are sharing out sweets. Luke gets four less than two-fifths of the sweets; Emma gets three more than one-quarter of the sweets; Jake has one-third of what Luke has, and Gemma has seven more than Jake. How many sweets are there altogether?

Alpha triangle

1 7th letter
2 American soldier Joe
3 Martini base
4 Vocalise melodically
5 Makes a phone call
6 Wheat, maize, corn, et al. ?
7 Indian stringed instrument



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

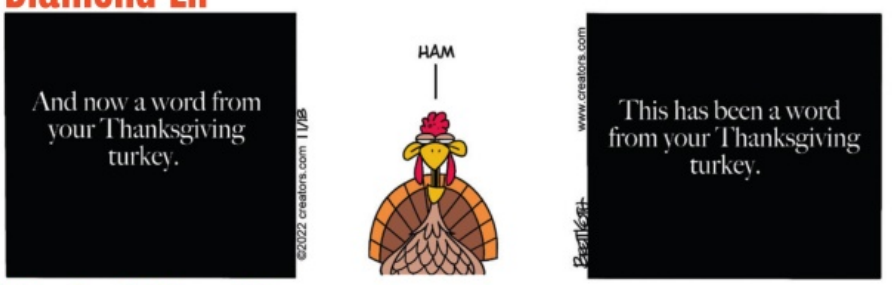
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil



Hart of the city

HELLO? ANYONE HERE?
HELLO! WELCOME TO THE HOUDINI HUT! I'M HERMAN THE GREAT!
WHY DO YOU CALL THIS PLACE THE HOUDINI HUT IF YOUR NAME IS HERMAN?
I'M STILL TRYING TO GAIN BRAND RECOGNITION IN THE PHILADELPHIA MARKET.

Crankshaft

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A BACK-ORDERED TURKEY BEFORE!
I SURE HOPE NOTHING ELSE GOES WRONG BEFORE THANKSGIVING!
MOM... THE STOVE'S NOT WORKING!
@#*&!! I SAID THAT OUT LOUD DIDN'T I?

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may feel healthy. Old diseases may be cured now. You may hear some good news from your relatives. You may perform well at work. Your colleagues may help you with a critical project. You may develop faith in your subordinate staff. It may increase your prestige in society. You may also hear good news in legal matters.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you are likely to be busy with your children's education and career. You may hear some good news in terms of their academics. Lovebirds are advised to keep patience in terms of their relationship. Investors are advised to avoid investing in risky assets as they might convert to losses. Meditation and yoga can help you.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be a victim of dissatisfaction. You may not see results for your hard work. It may bring disappointment. It can make you upset. You are advised to read documents carefully before signing them. Investments in assets may be possible. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in fixed assets.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be busy with social get-togethers and family occasions. It may improve your network. You may also plan for a work-related short trip. Disputes between siblings or friends may be resolved now. Your colleagues may cooperate with you to complete a difficult project. You are likely to complete all tasks with self-confidence. You are advised to keep patience while interacting with others.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may implement some new plans into your family business. It will pay you off in terms of gains in the near future. You may be busy with family or social get-togethers. You may spend money to buy some artefacts to renovate your house. This may increase your social status. Today you should be careful about teeth, ears, eyes, nose, and skin-related issues.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. Happiness may be around you. It can help you enjoy your day-to-day work. Your vital power may help you take difficult decisions, which will increase your profits in the near future. You may plan for a work-related short trip. Colleagues may support you to complete your work on time. Students may find more focus in their studies. You are advised to control your eating habits to avoid stomach issues.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may feel dull. Sleeplessness may affect your mental and physical health. You may also be upset due to health issues of your family members. Your expenditure on worthless items may affect your savings. You may be a victim of conspiracy, so you are advised to keep an eye on your opponents.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today your past investments may give you good profits. You may get good results after an easy task. your obstacles may go away now. Your financial status may be improved now. New sources of income may open up. Couples may hear good news in terms of children. You may get success easily after minimal effort.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you are likely to meet someone with the help of a person you may expect positive growth in your business or work. Your destiny may help you and your losses will now convert into profits. Your financial health may be on track now. Lovebirds are advised to take some important decisions in terms of marriage. Singles are likely to find their soulmate.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today situations are under control. You are blessed by Jupiter and can expect to get some important position or post in the office. You may be inclined towards spiritualism and mythological facts. You may feel like your thoughts are stronger. It can make you confident in your way of working. You may also plan for an overseas tour.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may feel unhappy and dull. It may affect your way of working. There may be some delay in projects that are to be completed. It may affect your prestige on the professional and domestic front. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. Lovebirds may break up. Job seekers may be disappointed in terms of new work.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may perform your best in the office. You may bond with your boss. You may get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Chronic health issues may be cured now. You may get good incentives for your work. Disputes with siblings may be resolved now. Job seekers may find better work.

KIDZONE

Aapthi Srivatsa, 8 Years, Jnanodaya School

Aarnav Subbaramu, 8 Years, Kendriya Vidyalaya

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
4/5+(1/2-(3/8))]=
4/5+(1/2-3/8)=
4/5+(4/8-3/8)=
4/5+1/8=
32/40+5/40=37/40

BULL'S EYE
able, bale,
BALEFUL, bail,
beau, befall, bell,
blue, bull, table,
flab, flub, label

FAST FIVE

S	T	A	P	H
U	S	I	N	G
O	R	G	A	N
H	O	L	L	O
T	I	N	T	S

STRIKE OUT

D	R	A	M	A	W	L	E	D		N	A	R	K	S
I			O	E	R		N	I	T					N
V			R	E	T	R	E	A	T					E
A	P	A	C	H	E		X	R	A	Y	E	D		
D			S			T	O	T		R		E		
T	A	M	E	D		R		S	A	W	S			
S		A		E	R	A	S	E		O		Y		
T	R	O	T		P		R	Y	D	E	R			
F	K		A	L	A			L			D			
F	I	A	S	C	O		D	E	E	P	E	N		
I		D	U	B	B	I	N	G			U			
K		E	D	O		V	I	A			O			
S	P	I	R	E		N	O	D	S	O	F	F		

QUICK

			R	U	E	T	H	E	D	A	Y			
			A	N	U		N		C		E		L	E
			T	A	O		I		E		L		A	I
			R		M	Y	S	O	R	E	P	A	K	O
			I		E		C		O		H		E	E
			P	R	O	T	O	N		K	A	I	S	E
			A		O		A		G		R		P	
			R	U	D	I	M	E	N	T	A	R	Y	
			U		U		O		I		M		G	
			F	L	O	R	I	D		S	T	I	N	T
			E		D		R		I		H		E	C
			A		O		V	E	R	T	H	R	O	W
			S		A		A		P		I		E	
			T	A	M	E	D		R		S	A	W	S
			D		S		T	O	T		R		E	
			A	P	A	C	H	E		X	R	A	Y	E
			V		R	E	T	R	E	A	T			E
			I		O	E	R		N	I	T			N
			K		E	D	O		V	I	A			O
			F	I	R	E		N	O	D	S	O	F	F

QUOTE UNCODE
Beauty is eternity gazing at itself in a mirror.

MENSA PUZZLE
36: 32 ÷ 8 × 9 = 36.
Similarly 12 ÷ 3 × 2 = 8 and 24 ÷ 6 × 7 = 28

RIDDLER 40 sweets

SUDOKU

8	6	3	4	1	5	7	2	9
1	2	4	6	9	7	3	5	8
9	7	5	2	8	3	4	6	1
7	3	2	1	4	9	6	8	5
4	9	6	3	5	8	1	7	2
5	1	8	7	6	2	9	3	4
3	4	7	5	2	1	8	9	6
6	5	9	8	7	4	2	1	3
2	8	1	9	3	6	5	4	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
G, GI, GIn, SIng, Rings, GRains, Sarangi.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 × 5 + 6 − 8 = 8
Medium
4 + 8 − 1 + 1 = 12
Hard
5 − 8 + 2 + 5 = 4

LOOP

KAKURO

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SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Uncle is my hero

Vijay Raghavendra, who plays a police inspector in O Manase, thanks his uncle BK Shivaram, Assistant Commissioner of Police (retired) -- not for allowing him to marry his daughter but for inspiring him with his dedication to duty. Vijay Raghavendra's better half Spandana is Shivaram's daughter.

"It is the first time I play a cop in Kannada movies. Playing a cop became easy for me due to my uncle who is my inspiration. I used to observe his body language," said Vijay Raghavendra. Appreciating Sanchita Padukone and Dharma Keerthiraj for their commitment, Vijay said he also learnt a lot from his co-stars. "I am confident of this movie's success as it has all the ingredients – love, action, comedy and beautiful locations – to make audiences happy," he said. Shivaram was the chief guest at the audio launch of the film. Shanvi Srivastava was supposed to play the female lead in this triangular love story but the director later approached Sanchita Padukone. "I thank Shanvi for gracing this function," he said.

Brothers' story

Director Prakash Kumar, who debuts in Sandalwood as a director, is busy making arrangements for the release of his maiden Kannada movie RC Brothers. Prakash Kumar says RC Brothers will be released on January 26 across the state.

"RC Brothers means Ramachari and Ramanachari brothers. I am confident of its success at the box office because of its content. Character artistes Tabala Nani and Kuri Pratap played brothers in the movie while Sambrama Shri and Nayana paired opposite them," said Prakash Kuma. He said he has been an associate and assistant with other directors for the last nine years. "All the actors have done a good job in my maiden film that was shot in and around Bengaluru for 35 days. The movie is about the relationship between two brothers. The story revolves around an unemployed elder brother and the younger brother who is a police inspector," he said.

Mani Shashank, an advocate, has bankrolled this movie in association with his friend Girish, a silver medal winner in the Olympics.

Minimal bride

Decoding Athiya Shetty's simple yet ethereal wedding look

Athiya Shetty married the love of her life KL Rahul in a dreamy wedding ceremony hosted at Suniel Shetty's palatial Khandala bungalow. The couple took pheras against a setting sun and the first picture from the wedding looked ethereal. Here's decoding Athiya's minimalistic bridal look.

A no-drama bride

Athiya Shetty made sure that her bridal look was fuss-free and simple. She opted for a simple maang-tikka and ditched the matha-patti and traded chunky kaleerein for simple ones. She beautifully embraced a nude make-up look with blush pink eyeshadow and the evergreen mane-parted bun.

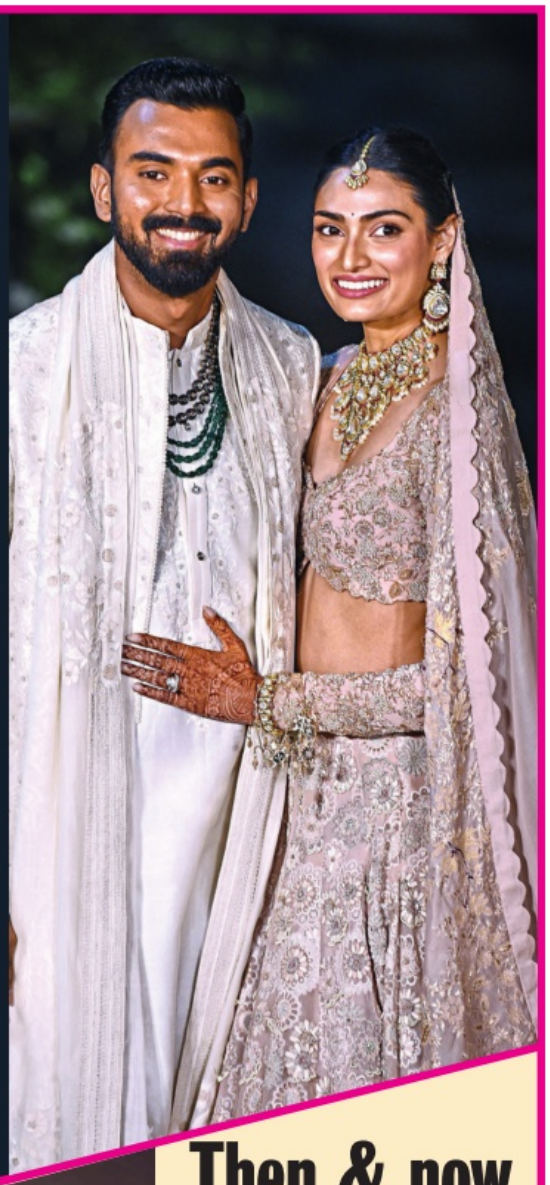
A timeless lehenga look created in 10,000 hours

Athiya embraced her winter wedding with a full-sleeve choli and an elaborate lehenga. Ditching the traditional bridal red for her wedding, Athiya opted for an old-rose pink lehenga. Her chikankari outfit featured intricate zardozi and jaali work. Talking to Vogue, Anamika Khanna, who had designed Athiya's lehenga, revealed that it took 10000 hours to make it. Athiya's lehenga was made from silk and silk organza was used for her dupatta and veil.

A simple mangalsutra and stunning engagement ring

Keeping up with her minimalistic choices, Athiya opted for a simple mangalsutra. When the couple stepped out to pose for the paparazzi, the actress was papped with a simple solitaire mangalsutra. Athiya Shetty also flaunted a chunky diamond ring, seemingly gifted to her by KL Rahul during their engagement ceremony.

—ANI



Every nomination everywhere all at once

The multiverse-skipping sci-fi indie hit "Everything Everywhere All at Once" led nominations to the 95th Academy Awards as Hollywood heaped honors on big-screen spectacles like "Top Gun: Maverick" and "Avatar: The Way of Water".

Daniel Scheinert and Daniel Kwan's "Everything Everywhere All at Once" landed a leading 11 nominations, including nods for Michelle Yeoh and comeback kid Ke Huy Quan.

Indian names

The teams of "RRR", "All That Breathes" and "The Elephant Whisperers" on Tuesday celebrated their films nominations. From SS Rajamouli-directed "RRR", the movie's track "Naatu Naatu" bagged the nomination in the Original Song category, while Shaunak Sen's "All That Breathes" and "The Elephant Whisperers", directed by Kartiki Gonsalves, made it to final five of Documentary Feature and Documentary Short Subject sections, respectively.

Then & now

Known for her diverse and power-packed performances, Raveena Tandon made her impressive debut on OTT with 'Aranyak' in 2021. The actress believes that the digital space gives actors an opportunity to refine their characters.

"I found it very interesting to see the kind of roles that were written, and the experimentation that directors were doing with varied genres on OTT projects. I explored the platform because it excited me to do something challenging, which under normal circumstances probably on a big ticket film, I would not have been able to do," says Raveena, who recently shot for another web project titled 'Patna Shukla' in Bhopal. She goes on to add, "On OTT you can push your boundaries to see what else you can do differently as an actor. You have the time to completely lay out your character for the audiences. Unlike in a two-hour film, in an OTT series, you can play with the nuances to establish in people's minds what the character is."

Ask her what difference she finds between the style of films made in the 90s and now, and she replies, "It is amazing to see the kind of roles being written for women protagonists. It has changed the perspective of the audiences as well. Plus, when it comes to an on-set environment, I feel it depends on you how you keep the atmosphere. But, I do find the atmosphere is much more professional now."

—ETimes

Back to Twitter

Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut is back on the micro-blogging site, Twitter and the very first tweet after her return on the platform talks about her upcoming directorial 'Emergency'.

On Tuesday, the actress took to her Twitter handle to announce her film's wrap.

She also shared a BTS video of her film in which one can see different departments of the film unit coming together to put together Kangana's ambitious project. The film, which will now enter the post-production stage, has set its release date as October 20, 2023.

Kangana wrote in her tweet, "And it's a wrap !!! Emergency filming completed successfully, see you in cinemas on 20th October 2023 a 20-10-2023." The BTS video features table reading sessions with the team, the storyboarding, moodboards, location hunting, the production hustle-bustle and Kangana busy brainstorming with her team.